

CLAIMS

1 1. In a media gateway, a method of identifying a connection for a
2 call, the method comprising the steps of:
3 receiving a command from an associated media gateway con-
4 troller to establish the connection for the call;
5 determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier (EECID);
6 sending the EECID to the associated media gateway control-
7 ler;
8 establishing the connection for the call with the far end media
9 gateway so that the EECID is associated with the connection and the
10 call; and
11 notifying the associated media gateway controller that the
12 connection has been established.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the EECID is a ran-
2 domly generated number.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the EECID is the
2 same as that of a network call correlation identifier.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the EECID is the
2 same as that of a backward network connection identifier.

1 5. In a media gateway controller, a method of identifying a connec-
2 tion for a call, the method comprising the steps of:

3 receiving a notification to establish the connection;
4 negotiating connection parameters with a far-end media gate-
5 way controller;
6 determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier (EECID);
7 sending the EECID to an associated media gateway and to the
8 far-end media gateway controller so that the EECID is associated
9 with the connection and the call; and
10 receiving a notification from the associated media gateway that
11 the connection has been established.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the notification to establish a
2 connection is an offhook notification.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein the notification to establish a
2 connection is a request to negotiate parameters, the request being received
3 from the far-end media gateway controller.

1 8. The method according to any of claims 5 through 7 wherein the
2 value of the EECID is a randomly generated number.

1 9. The method according to any of claims 5 through 7 wherein the
2 value of the EECID is the same as that of session-ID.

1 10. The method according to any of claims 5 through 7 wherein the
2 value of the EECID is the same as that of a backward network connection
3 identifier.

1 11. The method according to any of claims 5 through 7 wherein the
2 value of the EECID is the same as that of a call-ID.

1 12. A computer program product for enabling a media gateway to
2 identify a connection for a call, the computer program product including a
3 media with a computer program embodied therein, the computer program
4 comprising:

5 computer program code for receiving a command from an as-
6 sociated media gateway controller to establish the connection for the
7 call;

8 computer program code for determining a value for an end-to-
9 end call identifier (EECID);

10 computer program code for sending the EECID to the associ-
11 ated media gateway controller;

12 computer program code for establishing the connection for the
13 call with the far end media gateway so that the EECID is associated
14 with the connection and the call; and

15 computer program code for notifying the associated media
16 gateway controller that the connection has been established.

1 13. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the value of
2 the EECID is a randomly generated number.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the value of
2 the EECID is the same as that of a network call correlation identifier.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the value of
2 the EECID is the same as that of a backward network connection identifier.

1 16. A computer program product for enabling a media gateway
2 controller to identify a connection for a call, the computer program product
3 including a media with a computer program embodied thereon, the computer
4 program comprising:

5 computer program code for receiving a notification to establish
6 the connection;

7 computer program code for negotiating connection parameters
8 with a far-end media gateway controller;

9 computer program code for determining a value for an end-to-
10 end call identifier (EECID);

11 computer program code for sending the EECID to an associ-
12 ated media gateway and to the far-end media gateway controller so
13 that the EECID is associated with the connection and the call; and

14 computer program code for receiving a notification from the
15 associated media gateway that the connection has been established.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein the notifica-
2 tion to establish a connection is an offhook notification.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein the notifica-
2 tion to establish a connection is a request to negotiate parameters, the
3 request being received from the far-end media gateway controller.

1 19. A switching system including a computing module and associ-
2 ated switching fabrics and network interfaces, the switching system operable
3 as a media gateway which is programmed to identify a connection for a call
4 by performing the steps of:

5 receiving a command from an associated media gateway con-
6 troller to establish the connection for the call;

7 determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier (EECID);

8 sending the EECID to the associated media gateway control-
9 ler;

10 establishing the connection for the call with the far end media
11 gateway so that the EECID is associated with the connection and the
12 call; and
13 notifying the associated media gateway controller that the
14 connection has been established.

1 20. The switching system of claim 19 wherein the value of the EECID
2 is a randomly generated number.

1 21. The switching system of claim 19 wherein the value of the EECID
2 is the same as that of a network call correlation identifier.

1 22. The switching system of claim 19 wherein the value of the EECID
2 is the same as that of a backward network connection identifier.

1 23. A computer system operable as a media gateway controller
2 which is programmed to identify a connection for a call by performing the
3 steps of:

4 receiving a notification to establish the connection;
 5 negotiating connection parameters with a far-end media gate-
 6 way controller;
 7 determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier (EECID);
 8 sending the EECID to an associated media gateway and to the
 9 far-end media gateway controller so that the EECID is associated
 10 with the connection and the call; and
 11 receiving a notification from the associated media gateway that
 12 the connection has been established.

1 24. The computer system of claim 23 wherein the notification to
 2 establish a connection is an offhook notification.

1 25. The computer system of claim 23 wherein the notification to
 2 establish a connection is a request to negotiate parameters, the request
 3 being received from the far-end media gateway controller.

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~~28.~~ Apparatus operable to identify a connection for a call in a packet
 2 network, the apparatus comprising:

3 means for receiving a command from an associated media
4 gateway controller to establish the connection for the call;

5 means for determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier
6 (EECID);

7 means for sending the EECID to the associated media gate-
8 way controller; and

9 means for establishing the connection for the call with the far
10 end media gateway so that the EECID is associated with the connec-
11 tion and the call.

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1 ~~29.~~ Apparatus which associates an end-to-end call identifier with a
2 connection for a call, the apparatus comprising:

3 means for receiving a notification to establish the connection;

4 means for computer program code for negotiating connection
5 parameters with a far-end media gateway controller;

6 means for determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier
7 (EECID); and

8 means for sending the EECID to an associated media gateway
9 and to the far-end media gateway controller so that the EECID is as-
10 sociated with the connection and the call.

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1 In a multimedia packet network, a method of identifying a con-
 2 nection for a call comprising the steps of:
 3 at a media gateway controller, notifying an associated media
 4 gateway to establish the connection for the call;
 5 determining a value for an end-to-end call identifier (EECID) at
 6 the associated media gateway;
 7 sending the EECID from the associated media gateway to the
 8 media gateway controller so that the EECID is associated with the
 9 connection and the call at all media gateways and media gateway
 10 controllers involved in the call; and
 11 establishing the connection for the call at the associated media
 12 gateway and notifying the media gateway controller that the connec-
 13 tion has been established.

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1 In a multimedia packet network, a method of identifying a con-
 2 nection for a call comprising the steps of:
 3 receiving a notification at a media gateway controller to estab-
 4 lish a connection for a call;
 5 negotiating connection parameters at the media gateway con-
 6 troller;

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14 establishing the connection for the call at the associated media
15 gateway and notifying the media gateway controller that the connec-
16 tion has been established.

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1 ~~33.~~ A multimedia packet network including at least one media gate-
2 way controller connected to an associated media gateway, the media gate-
3 way controller operable to control the associated media gateway, the media
4 gateway controller and the associated media gateway programmed to
5 enable the identification of a connection for a call by performing the steps of:
6 receiving a notification at the media gateway controller to es-
7 tablish a connection for a call;
8 negotiating connection parameters at the media gateway con-
9 troller;
10 selecting an end-to-end call identifier (EECID) at the media
11 gateway controller;
12 notifying an associated media gateway of the EECID as part of
13 a command issued to the associated media gateway by the media
14 gateway controller to establish the connection; and
15 establishing the connection for the call at the associated media
16 gateway.